

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 08838 082007Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 /126 W
-----044868 082255Z /70

R 082005Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6437
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
USMISSION GENEVA

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USEEC

PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY
PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD
GENEVA ALSO FOR USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, EEC
SUBJ: EFFECTS OF NEW EUA CONVERSION RATE ON EC TOBACCO
TARIFF

REF (A) 78 BRUSSELS 161; (B) 77 BRUSSELS 6408

1. COMMISSION OFFICIALS TELL US THAT MEMBER STATES STILL
HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO AGREE ON APPLICATION OF THE NEW
EUROPEAN UNIT OF ACCOUNT (EUA) TO THE CXT. THE ISSUE IS
NOW BEING EXAMINED IN COREPER. THE OFFICIALS THOUGHT THAT,
BECAUSE OF ITS COMPLEXITY, IT WOULD PROBABLY BE RESOLVED
AT THAT LEVEL AND FORWARDED TO THE COUNCIL AS AN A-POINT.
THEY WERE UNWILLING TO ESTIMATE WHEN RESOLUTION OF THIS
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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 08838 082007Z

ISSUE MIGHT OCCUR BUT OPINED THAT CONSIDERABLE WORK STILL
HAD TO BE DONE BY COREPER. WHEN APPROVED, THEY FELT THAT
ACTUAL APPLICATION OF THE EUA TO THE CXT WOULD NOT OCCUR
UNTIL JANUARY 1, 1979 -- POSSIBLY EVEN LATER. EUA RATES
CALCULATED FOR OCTOBER 1, 1978 WILL PROBABLY BE USED FOR
THE INITIAL APPLICATION.

2. AN OFFICIAL IN THE COMMISSION'S TOBACCO SECTION TOLD US THAT SOME MEMBER STATES WERE CONCERNED ABOUT THE EFFECT OF EUA ADOPTION ON THEIR TOBACCO IMPORT COSTS; HE THOUGHT SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE EUA TO TOBACCO TARIFFS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, THE DG-VI OFFICIAL WITH OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ISSUE OF EUA APPLICATION TO THE CXT TOLD US THAT NO DEROGATIONS ARE FORESEEN EXCEPT FOR WINE AND CHEESE. IN THE CASE OF THESE PRODUCTS, THE GREEN RATES CURRENTLY USED IN APPLYING THE CXT WILL CONTINUE IN EFFECT.

3. RECOMMENDATION: WE FEEL THAT MEMBER STATES AND THE COMMISSION SHOULD BE FULLY AWARE OF THE U.S. CONCERN IN THIS AREA BEFORE RESOLVING THIS ISSUE. CONSEQUENTLY, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED CHANGE IN EC RULES BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMISSION AND THE MEMBER STATES IN THE MANNER PREVIOUSLY SUGGESTED IN REF B. HINTON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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